

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 L-03 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 INR-07

INT-05 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 OES-06 SP-02

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 /093 W

-----112241Z 028269 /72-62

O 112213Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3114

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 02569

FOR EB - ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ AND EUR/CAN - MR. ROUSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ARCTIC GAS ROLE IN MACKENZIE VALLEY  
CLAIM SETTLEMENT

REF: OTTAWA 3949(1976) AND 2477

1. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE CONFUSING IF NOT DAMAGING TO LET  
IMPRESSION REMAIN THAT ARCTIC GAS AND/OR U.S. GOVERNMENT  
CAN SOMEHOW TAKE INITIATIVE IN SETTLEMENT OF MACKENZIE  
VALLEY CLAIMS, OR MIGHT BE CALLED UPON TO ASSUME  
FINANCIAL OR OTHER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.

2. SUBJECT YOUR CONCURRENCE, I WILL SEND FOLLOWING  
LETTER TO SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN RONCALIO.

3. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN:  
IN THE COURSE OF HEARINGS BEFORE THE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON PUBLIC LANDS HELD UNDER YOUR JURISDICTION ON APRIL 5,  
A PORTION OF A CABLE SENT BY EMBASSY OTTAWA ON  
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SEPTEMBER 30, 1976 WAS QUOTED. THE CABLE REFERRED TO  
A CONVERSATION BETWEEN MYSELF AND MESSRS. ORLOFSKY AND  
CLARKE OF THE COLUMBIA GAS SYSTEM ON SEPTEMBER 29, 1976.  
THE PORTION CITED IN YOUR HEARING READ: "MEETING ENDED  
WITH DISCUSSION OF ARCTIC GAS OFFER TO MAKE A SETTLEMENT  
OF NATIVE CLAIMS ALONG PIPELINE ROUTE. AMBASSADOR,  
CLARKE AND ORLOFSKY CONCLUDED THAT ALTHOUGH THIS IS A

NECESSARY AND HELPFUL GESTURE IT WOULD NOT BY ITSELF  
RESOLVE THE DIFFICULT CLAIMS ISSUE."

4. DURING THE SUB-COMMITTEE HEARINGS, A QUESTION WAS  
RAISED AS TO WHETHER THIS REPORT FROM EMBASSY OTTAWA  
INDICATED THAT ARCTIC GAS IS OR WAS PREPARING AN INITIA-  
TIVE ON THE CLAIMS ISSUE, AND WHETHER ARCTIC GAS MIGHT  
NOT THUS ASSUME SOME FINANCIAL OR OTHER RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR A CLAIMS SETTLEMENT. IN CANADA, IN THE HOUSE OF  
COMMONS AND IN THE MEDIA, SIMILAR QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN  
RAISED. IN ADDITION, IT HAS BEEN ASKED WHETHER THE  
UNITED STATES IS PLAYING OR ATTEMPTING TO PLAY A ROLE IN  
THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIMS.

5. AFTER CAREFUL REVIEW OF MY OWN MEMORY AND THAT OF THE  
EMBASSY STAFF OFFICER PRESENT, IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT  
THE REPORT QUOTED IN YOUR HEARINGS, WHICH WAS PREPARED  
BY EMBASSY STAFF AS A SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION, WAS NOT  
WELL DRAFTED AS IT COULD LEND ITSELF TO MISINTERPRETATION.

6. TO MY CERTAIN RECOLLECTION, THERE WAS NO MENTION IN  
MY CONVERSATION WITH MESSRS. CLARKE AND ORLOFSKY OF AN  
ARCTIC GAS INITIATIVE FOR SETTLING MACKENZIE VALLEY  
CLAIMS. DURING THAT CONVERSATION IT WAS RECOGNIZED  
THAT THE DISPOSITION OF THE CLAIMS ISSUE COULD HAVE AN  
IMPACT ON ARCTIC GAS' PROPOSAL TO BUILD A PIPELINE DOWN  
THE MACKENZIE VALLEY. A CORRECT RENDERING OF THE CON-  
VERSATION WOULD HAVE REFERRED TO ENCOURAGEMENT BY  
ARCTIC GAS OF A SETTLEMENT OF NATIVE CLAIMS ALONG THE  
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PIPELINE ROUTE, NOT TO AN ARCTIC GAS OFFER TO SETTLE.

7. IN ORDER TO AVOID ALL MISINTERPRETATION, LET ME STATE  
MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITION ON CLAIMS SETTLEMENT  
IN CANADA. IT IS THAT ONLY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATING AND SETTLING NATIVE CLAIMS  
ALONG EITHER THE MACKENZIE VALLEY OR ALCAN PIPELINE  
ROUTES. ONLY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT CAN DETERMINE  
WHAT ROLE IF ANY PRIVATE COMPANIES MAY PLAY; UP TO THE  
PRESENT NO SUCH ROLE HAS BEEN DEFINED. FOREIGN GOVERN-  
MENTS WILL OF COURSE PLAY NO PART AT ALL IN THIS ISSUE.

8. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD MAKE THE TEXT OF  
THIS LETTER PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF YOUR  
COMMITTEE'S HEARINGS ON THIS SUBJECT. SINCERELY,  
TOM ENDERS, U. S. AMBASSADOR TO CANADA. END TEXT.

9. IF YOU CONCUR, PLEASE FORWARD TEXT THROUGH OFFICE  
OF CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS (H) TO CHAIRMAN RONCALIO

AND SEND COPIES TO SENATOR STEVENS (IN RESPONSE TO  
APRIL 5 CABLE TO ME INQUIRING ABOUT THE REPORT), AND  
TO CONGRESSMAN RUNNELS OF NEW MEXICO WHO RAISED THE  
ISSUE IN THE FIRST PLACE. SIMULTANEOUSLY, I WILL PASS  
A COPY TO THE RELEVANT MINISTERS HERE SO THAT THEY CAN  
PUT THIS CLARIFICATION ON THE RECORD AT THE TIME AND  
PLACE OF THEIR CHOOSING. ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, NATURAL GAS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, GAS PIPELINES, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977OTTAWA02569  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770125-0961  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 OTTAWA 3949  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2841777  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLEGED ARCTIC GAS ROLE IN MACKENZIE VALLEY CLAIM SETTLEMENT  
**TAGS:** ENRG, CA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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